Testimony for Minnesota House Redistricting Committee September 13, 2021 at 3:00 PM CD3

by Audrey Kramer Chanhassen, MN

The US 2020 Census data is giving CD3 in Carver County, MN a chance to re-evaluate its election process. I would like the honorable MN House Redistricting Committee members to know that CD3 constituents will be watching the redistricting process to see that senate districts 47A and 47B within CD 3, follow the MN statutes and traditional principles of fair maps as well as the US Constitution's requirement of "One person. One vote."

I have noticed that some cities in our CD3 are split among more than one school district, perhaps compromising residents from having full voting power on educational issues such as referendums or school board selections. It also likely prevents towns from developing a team-based school spirit like that which makes cohesive communities of interest. I've noticed minorities are dramatically outnumbered by the white populations in every polling place. Oddly some polling places are located up to 5 different locations in defiance of assumed contiguous statute requirements.

As far as equal populations are concerned, the SD47A & SD47B have had nearly the same total populations, but, polling places within those senate districts can range from 83 people to nearly 8,000 people. Our senate districts appear to be heavily weighted in a singular political direction. Is that protecting or eliminating an incumbent rather than protecting our Constitutional stipulation of "One person. One Vote'?

Legislators, it is incumbent upon you to draw fair maps inclusive of public input that are contiguous, that are fair to under-represented cultural groups, that protect communities of interest, that are equitable in population, that contain no gerrymandered 'packing' or 'cracking', that are non partisan, and are neither protecting nor eliminating incumbents. **Legislators**, in closing, I ask you to build fair Minnesota redistricted maps which promote the strength and integrity of the election process for the sake of the survival of our American people's long-held and respected, Democratic Republic!